

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-02 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
NRC-05 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 DOE-11 OES-07 SS-15 /141 W
-----009374 251834Z /46

O 251828Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5129
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 01137

RW MESSAGE NO. 5

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM US UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLO-
GICAL AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

REF.: GENEVA 00948

1. FOLLOWING JANUARY 25 MEETING ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS,
AMEMBASSY LIKHATCHEV (HEAD OF SOVIET DEL) AND HIS
ALTERNATE ASKED TO SEE AMBASSADOR FISHER (HEAD OF US DEL)
TOGETHER WITH US ALTERNATE TO DISCUSS RADIOLOGICAL WEA-
PONS (RW) ISSUE. LIKHATCHEV SAID THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE
CONSIDERED THE US POSITION WITH REGARD TO COMING TO AN
AGREEMENT BASIS FOR RW NEGOTIATIONS. AFTER HAVING CON-
SULTED WITH MOSCOW, HE SAID THAT THE SOVIET SIDE STANDS
READY NOT TO INSIST ON INCLUDING "NEUTRON WEAPONS" IN
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THE DRAFT CONVENTION ON RW. LIKHATCHEV INDICATED THAT
IN THE SOVIET VIEW THIS MEANT THAT THERE IS NOW A BASIS
TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON RW.

2. FISHER SAID THAT HE WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON OF THE
SOVIET POSITION AND WOULD EXPECT THAT IT WOULD BE
POSSIBLE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS AT AN EARLY DATE.

3. LIKHACHEV THEN SAID THAT HE WISHED TO RAISE A SEPARATE ISSUE. HE SAID THAT THE SOVIETS WISHED TO PROPOSE ON A BILATERAL BASIS THAT WE CARRY OUT SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS ON "NEUTRON WEAPONS".

4. FISHER SAID THAT HE WOULD OF COURSE REPORT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL TO WASHINGTON. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, IF THE PROPOSAL WERE LINKED IN ANY WAY WITH THE RW ISSUE, THAT THERE WERE LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES. HE INDICATED THAT IT MAY TAKE THE US SIDE CONSIDERABLE TIME TO CONSIDER THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THE REDUCED BLAST/ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS.

5. LIKHACHEV REITERATED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE DOES NOT CONSIDER THE TWO ISSUES TO BE DIRECTLY RELATED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST SEPARATE GUIDANCE ON THE SOVIET PROPOSALS TO RESUME RW NEGOTIATIONS AND TO START DISCUSSIONS ON THE SO-CALLED "NEUTRON WEAPONS". VANDEN HEUVEL

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